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SUBJECT Survey of OB Situation of the Soviet Ground Forces and the German Volkspolizei

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SOURCE

The strength and organization of the Soviet ground forces in the Soviet-occupied countries of Europe has not changed since the middle of May 1952. The divisions in the Soviet Zone of Germany which moved to the troop training grounds in April 1952 prepared their quarters in mid-May 1952 prior to the start of training. Individual units were observed moving to the training grounds for long-term summer exercises during the first half of May. A comprehensive reorganization of high Soviet command posts and units was carried out in the area south and west of Berlin. The fact that this measure also affected the Hq GOFG which, since 1945, had been permanently stationed in the eastern sector of POTSDAM, leads to the conclusion that these transfers must have resulted from growing political tensions. However, no signs indicating the preparation of an armed attack by the Russians in the near future are discernible.

GERMANY.

Order of Battle.

1. With the exception of local movements, no changes occurred in the general OB as was learned from reports received during the period from 1 May to 1 June 1952.

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a. GHQ Units of the Group of Occupation Forces Germany (GOFG).

56th Motor Trans Regt	POTSDAM	27 May	25X1B
An Engr Regt	BERNBURG	7 May	
36th Pon Bridge Regt	MAGDEBURG	10 May	
Hq IV Arty Corps	RATHENOW	25 April	
65th Mort Brig (US)	RATHENOW	May	
10th How Arty Brig (US)	RATHENOW	19 May	

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34th Arty Div (US)	[REDACTED]	POTSDAM	11 May	25X1B
30th Gds Gun Arty Brig	[REDACTED]	POTSDAM	13 April	
4th AT Arty Brig (US)	[REDACTED]	RUEGEN area	May	
Hq 2d Gds AAA Div	[REDACTED]	POTSDAM	15 April	
 b. <u>Eighth Guards Army.</u>				
43d (Gds) Army Arty Brig	[REDACTED]	ALTENBURG	10 May	
19th Gds Engr Bn	[REDACTED]	WEIMAR- BUCHENWALD	25 April	
Hq XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	[REDACTED]	RUDOLSTADT	5 May	
Hq 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	[REDACTED]	OHREDRUF	31 March	
112th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	[REDACTED]	PLAUEN	4 April	
117th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	[REDACTED]	HEININGEN	9 April	
120th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	[REDACTED]	OHREDRUF	16 May	
15th (Gds?) Tank SP Regt	[REDACTED]	OHREDRUF	23 April	
935th AAA Bn (US)	[REDACTED]	OHREDRUF	7 February	25X1B
Hq 20th Gds Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	JENA	3 April	
68th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt(US)	[REDACTED]	JENA	25 April	
172d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	[REDACTED]	GOTHA	16 May	
174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	[REDACTED]	WEISSHOFELS	16 May	
932d AAA Bn (US)	[REDACTED]	NAUMBURG	25 April	
Hq 21st Gds Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	HALLE	20 March	
68th Gds Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	HALLE	22 March	
70th Gds Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	HALLE	22 March	
28th Gds Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	HALLE	12 May	
 c. <u>Third Shock Army.</u>				
136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	[REDACTED]	BURG	5 April	
Hq 207th Mtz Rifle Div	[REDACTED]	STENDAL	5 April	
136th Gun Arty Regt	[REDACTED]	SCHWERIN	February	
115th How Arty Regt	[REDACTED]	?) SCHWERIN	12 March	
Hq 20th Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	PERLEBERG	20 April	
58th Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	PERLEBERG	9 May	
120th Mtrcl Bn	[REDACTED]	PARCHIM	9 May	25X1

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d. First Guards Mechanized Army.

Hq 8th Gds Mecz Div

Hq 9th Tank Div

Hq 11th Gds Tank Div

GRITKA 11 April

25X1B

RIESA 1 April

KLOTZSCHE 13 April

e. Second Guards Mechanized Army.

Army Hq

2d Light Arty Brig (US)

Hq 9th Gds Tank Div

33d Gds Mtz Rifle Regt

126th Gds RL Bn

Hq 12th Gds Tank Div

48th Gds Tank Regt

49th Gds Tank Regt

66th Gds Tank Regt

71st Gds Div Tank SP Regt

226th Mort Regt

87th (?) Rcn Bn

59th Tank Tng Bn (US)

Hq 1st Mecz Div

FUERSTEN-  
BERG 12 April

ORANIENBURG 24 April

NEUSTRELITZ 4 April

PASEWALK 29 March

NEUSTRELITZ 13 April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

NEURUPPIN April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

NEURUPPIN 29 April

DOEBERITZ 7 May

f. Third Guards Mechanized Army.

Army Hq

91st Gds RL Regt

Hq 14th Gds Mecz Div

49th Gds Mecz Regt

10th Tank Regt

51st Gds Tank Regt

Hq 7th Gds Tank Div

Hq 9th Mecz Div

JUETERBOG 28 May

LUCKENWALDE 20 April 25X1B

JUETERBOG 4 May

JUETERBOG 4 May

JUETERBOG 4 May

WITTENBERG 20 February

ROSSLAU 24 April

COTTBUS 25 April

g. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army.

35th Gds Mecz Regt

93d Tank Regt

BERNAU 14 May

BAD FREIEN-  
WALDE (?) 6 April 25X1

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82d Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt	[REDACTED]	EERESWALDE	29 March
34th Tank Tng Bn	[REDACTED]	BERNAU	14 May
Hq 7th Gds Mecz Div	[REDACTED]	FUERSTENWALDE	16 May
25th Gds Mecz Regt	[REDACTED]	FRANKFURT/Oder	2 May
57th Gds Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	FRANKFURT/Oder	2 May
84th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt	[REDACTED]	FRANKFURT/Oder	2 May
122d Gds Engr Bn	[REDACTED]	FUERSTENWALDE	14 April
111th Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	ORANIENBURG	24 April
162d Tank Regt	[REDACTED]	ORANIENBURG	24 April
53d Mtrcl Bn	[REDACTED]	ORANIENBURG	14 May
An Tank Tng Bn of the 25th Tank Div	[REDACTED]	ORANIENBURG	14 May
Hq 10th Gds Tank Div	[REDACTED]	Krampnitz	14 April
29th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt	[REDACTED]	Krampnitz	14 April
359th Gds AAA Regt	[REDACTED]	Krampnitz	15 February

Reassignment of Posts.

3. A large-scale reshuffling of Soviet headquarters, offices and units began in the area south and west of BERLIN on 22 May 1952, and has not been completed. The following observations were made:
  - a. The headquarters and headquarters units of the Third Gds Mecz Army from WUENSDORF, predominantly from the Panzertruppschule, were transferred to JUETERBOG-Neues Lager. The 4th AT Arty Brig (US) of the IV Arty Corps which had hitherto been stationed in JUETERBOG-Neues Lager was transferred to Ruegen Island at the beginning of May 1952. \* It is undetermined whether army troops of the Third Gds Mecz Army were also involved in the transfer to the JUETERBOG area.
  - b. The officers' school of the GOFU, [REDACTED] was transferred from 25X1B the Hindenburg Kaserne in WUENSDORF to the Kriegsschule in POTSDAM-BORNSTEDT.
  - c. The 56th Motor Trans Regt of the GOFU, [REDACTED] was transferred 25X1B from the Cambrai Kaserne, WUENSDORF, to the barracks installation in POTSDAM-WILDPARK-WEST. The latter installation had previously quartered a brigade of the 34th Arty Div (US) which has been at ALTENGRABOW for field exercises since the end of April 1952. It is not known which unit will use the installation as permanent quarters.
  - d. Components of the 62d AAA Div (US) of the Third Gds Mecz Army, which had hitherto been carried in the Lutz Kaserne, WUENSDORF, and whose batteries were emplaced around the entire billeting area in WUENSDORF, are believed to have moved to a troop training grounds as on 27 May 1952, a troop shipment was reportedly going from WUENSDORF to CARDELZEN. It is conceivable that elements of the division temporarily moved to the area of the LETZLING HEATH.

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- e. A motor vehicle and tank repair shop with its machinery possibly remains in the Panzertruppschule, WUENSDORF. No information has been obtained on the shipping of repair shop equipment which had been procured and installed amid considerable difficulties only several months previously. Only the Soviet personnel moved to the area of the Stammlager ZOSEN at the end of May 1952.

The quarters which became vacant as a result of the reshuffling program, with unidentified units also moving out from the Stammlager ZOSEN toward an undetermined direction, have been occupied by the Hq and offices of the GOFG from POTSDAM and BABELSBERG since about 25 May 1952. The offices involved apparently are offices of the GOFG in the Kriegsschule and the Ruinenberg Kaserne and offices of the Chief of Rear Services in the Adolf Hitler Kaserne. The new quarters in the WUENSDORF-ZOSEN area of these offices have not been determined; however, it can be assumed that the command posts from BABELSBERG will be housed in the Panzertruppschule which is the most suitable installation.

The transfer of the Hq GOFG which had been in the BABELSBERG restricted area since 1945 and, most probably, the transfer of still other offices of the GOFG in POTSDAM is undoubtedly the result of growing political tensions. It is believed that the former location of the Hq GOFG at the border of the American sector was deemed inappropriate in view of a possible plan to close the border of West BERLIN. The reconditioned barracks installations in WUENSDORF are suitable as new quarters. The fact that the Hq and headquarters units of the Third Gds Mecz Army and the large repair shop had been transferred to the barracks installations in WUENSDORF in December 1951 and officers' courses were still conducted there in the summer of 1951 seems to prove that the reshuffling of offices and units had not been prepared long in advance.

#### Training and Field Exercises.

##### 4. Division Training.

The main movement to the troop training grounds of the majority of the combat divisions was completed by the end of April 1952. However, some individual troop shipments arrived behind schedule. As had been anticipated, about one third of the 21st Gds Mecz Div moved to the new troop training grounds at LOSSA north of WEIMAR as late as 5 to 10 May. Further components of the division will probably follow after the necessary quarters have been prepared. As in 1951, the troops started individual training and training at group level at the troop training grounds after the preparation of their quarters in May. The following additional information on the occupation of, and the training at, the troop training grounds supplements the previous analysis. \*

##### a. Eighth Guards Army Area.

###### OURDRUF.

Hutments and tent camps in the area north of CRAWINKEL, the Alte Lager northeast of OURDRUF and a hutment in the area of WIPPERODA were occupied to capacity in mid-May. Most of the motor vehicles belong to the 20th Gds Mecz Div and the 39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div carried there.

###### KINDEL.

In mid-May, the camp west of HAINA was occupied to capacity while Camp KINDEL, situated northwest of the former, was only lightly occupied. However, the arrival of prefabricated barracks sections tends to indicate that further quartering facilities are to be established. Training activity there predominantly included instruction on tanks and artillery pieces and tank driving practice.

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A small-scale field exercise was held involving the employment of smoke screens. The majority of the motor vehicles observed belong to the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div and some to the corps troops of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps.

b. Third Shock Army Area.

LETZLING HEATH.

Camp PLANKEN and Camp BORN appear to be occupied to capacity by units of the 7th Gds Tank Div and, possibly, elements of the 19th Gds Mecz Div from MAGDEBURG. Besides motor vehicles of these two divisions, individual vehicles of the 9th Mecz Div and the 136th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt of the Third Shock Army also appeared until about 10 May 1952. As the 10th Gds Tank Div used WOLMIRSTEDT and COLBITZ as detraining stations, elements of the division are carried in Camp DOLLE. Camps occupied by hitherto unidentified units in the northern section of LETZLING HEATH apparently include a camp south of HOTTENDORF, a new and larger camp in the area of BARRIERE ZIENAU, which was established in the winter of 1951, and a tent camp south-west of LETZLINGEN. It is possible that, about 22 May 1952, the first large-scale field exercises involving several units including MIG-15 units were held in the area between BORN-PLANKEN and WALDENSLEBEN. Motor vehicles observed there during that period included vehicles of the 7th Gds Tank Div, the 19th Gds Mecz Div, the 31st AAA Div and headquarters troops of the Third Gds Mecz Army. Other reports indicated that one camp each was under construction in the area of JAEVENITZ and ZICHTAU near KLOETZE, northwest of GARDELSEN.

WITTSTOCK.

Supplementary information revealed that components of the 18th Mecz Div moved from their three garrisons in 38 shipments to the WITTSTOCK troop training grounds during the period from 10 to 17 April 1952. They were confirmed there until the middle of May. No special training activity was noticed.

c. First Gds Mecz Army Area.

KOENIGSBRUECK.

- Prior to 7 May, most of the motor vehicles observed in the area of the troop training grounds belonged to the 8th Gds Mecz Div and the 11th Gds Tank Div. Only in isolated instances did vehicles belong to the 9th Tank Div. Field exercises could not be observed as the training area was strictly cordoned off. However, artillery fire was heard almost daily from the training grounds.

ZEITHAIN.

No information has been obtained directly from the troop training grounds. However, signal troops of the 9th Tank Div constructed telephone lines in the area south of BAD LIEBENWERDA during the period from 9 to 14 May 1952, and therefore it is possible that at least elements of the division were at the ZEITHAIN troop training grounds which is situated south of BAD LIEBENWERDA at the beginning of May.

d. Second Gds Mecz Army Area.

Because this army lacks an army training grounds as is available to the other armies, the divisions and headquarters troops are forced to rotate their units to small training grounds in the army area as some of them had done in the preceding years. Most of these camps are in

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the area of NEUSTRELITZ. Hutments and tent camps west of the town as far as Mueritz Lake observed occupied until mid-May 1952 include a tent camp in the area west of ZIERKE, north of NEUSTRELITZ; a new hutment in the Peutsche Forest, east of the NEUSTRELITZ-PENZLIN road, which was occupied by components of the 2d Light Arty Brig (US) of the Second Gds Mecz Army in ORANIENBURG at the beginning of May 1952; an old hutment under reconstruction in the area of PRIESTERBACK, 2 km south of SPECK; and a tent camp along the PRIESTERBACK-SPECK road. Another camp is apparently located in the area south of NEURANDENBURG. It was occupied by the unidentified Gds Iv Tank SP Regt of the 9th Gds Tank Div, until the end of April. At the beginning of May 1952, the 234th Mort Regt of the division moved in, allegedly for a period of eight weeks. As in 1951, the 12th Gds Tank Div with most of its units conducts its summer training in the area north of NEURUPPIN, while, this year again, the 1st Mecz Div trained several times in the area around NEUSTRELITZ.

e. Third Gds Mecz Army Area.

WERDER-MARKENDORF

The units of the 6th Gds Tank Div were in Camp WERDER-MARKENDORF at the beginning of May 1952. Rear details were left at the posts. No information on field exercises and the training program planned has been available.

WEISSWASSER.

Camp NOCHTEN was occupied to capacity by elements of the 9th Mecz Div until 10 May. So far as could be learned, the training involved record practice with heavy machine guns and tanks with live ammunition on an AT artillery range, close-combat practice in trenches under combat conditions, and aiming practice with artillery pieces and tanks on the terrain.

f. Fourth Gds Mecz Army Area.

TEMPLIN.

Although the troop training grounds were heavily guarded, it was determined that Camp VOGELSANG and HAHNELSPRING were occupied to capacity by headquarters troops of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army and units of the 25th Tank Div and the 6th Gds Mecz Div until the end of May 1952. Camp Hammelspring was enlarged and new firing ranges for rifles, machine guns and pistols were established immediately after the troops had arrived. The troops in the camp participated in physical exercises, theoretical instruction, close-order drill and maintenance duty on weapons, equipment and vehicles until the middle of May. Training with rifles and light machine guns at group level was conducted on the terrain. Both camps were alerted on 26 May. These alerts were presumably for practice only and of a type which had also been observed at various troop training grounds last year.

LIEBEROSE.

The units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div which had moved to the LIEBEROSE troop training grounds from their posts in mid-April, were still at the training grounds about 15 May 1952. Sixty low temporary wooden buildings which would replace the emergency quarters used in 1951 were under construction in Camp JAMLITZ. No major field exercises were conducted prior to the middle of May. The daily routine of the troops, at that time, predominantly included instruction on arms, infantry drill,

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political indoctrination and maintenance duty on weapons and vehicles. Further training included close-bombat practice, aiming and loading practice and subcaliber firing from revolving tank turrets at a target range. Troops were repeatedly instructed on a miniature area which was 80 x 100 meters. One small-scale night practice was held.

### Special Exercises.

#### 5. a. Artillery.

The three brigades of the 6th Arty Div from RATHENOW, including the 10th How Arty Brig (US) which left RATHENOW between 15 and 19 May were at ALTENGRABOW in about mid-May 1952. Two brigades of the 34th Arty Div (US) from POTSDAM were still at the troop training grounds about mid-May 1952. Other units determined there on the basis of transportation reports and vehicle number analysis include components of AAA units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div, the 9th Gds Tank Div, the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div, and the two army artillery brigades of the Eighth Gds Army permanently stationed in ALTENBURG.

#### b. AA Artillery.

Prior to 16 May 1952, only vehicles of the 13th AAA Div and the AAA regiment of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps were identified at the WUSTROW AAA range. However, as no indications are available that AAA units were shipped to or from the troop training grounds during the period under review, it can safely be assumed that the occupation at the range has not changed from that observed in April. \*

#### c. Engineer Troops.

The main training center of the majority of the engineer troops in the Soviet Zone of Germany is on the Elbe River between WITTENBERG and RIESA as in 1951. The units stationed in this area since mid-April and the beginning of May respectively are distributed as follows:

BITTKAU area:	Components of all engineer units of the Third Shock Army
AKEN-BRITTENHAGEN area:	Unidentified engineer regiment of the GOFG from BERNBURG
ROSSLAU area:	36th Pon Bridge Regt of the GOFG from MAGDEBURG
Area east of WITTENBERG:	Elements of the division engineer units of the Third Gds Mecz Army
Area south of MUEHLEBERG:	Presumably elements of the 1st Assault Engr Regt of the First Gds Mecz Army from DRESDEN-UEBIGAU. Components of the regiment constructed a pontoon bridge across the Neisse River in GOERLITZ at the end of April. There are vague indications that the bridge was dismantled again on 14 May.

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Components of the 19th Gds Engr Bn of the Eighth Gds Army and of the three engineer battalions of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps have been at the engineer training site of the Eighth Gds Army in BAD KOESEN since the end of April 1952. Engineer units of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps can be carried in the area southwest of CRAWINKEL. The bulk of the engineer units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army was presumably at the TELPLIN troop training grounds in May 1952. Engineer units of the Second Gds Mecz Army moved from their garrisons in NEUBRANDENBURG, NEUSTRELITZ and the DOEBERITZ area to the area of JERICHOW on the Elbe River between 25 and 27 May 1952. This area had also been used as amphibious training site by engineer troops of this and the Fourth Gds Mecz Army in the summer of 1951. It was learned that small artillery units of the 39th and 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Divs, which had moved from Thuringia to STENDAL several days prior to 25 May, were possibly to take part in the engineer exercises.

- d. During the period from 8 to 12 May 1952, the 4th AT Arty Brig (US) of the IV Arty Corps in JUETENBOG-Neues Lager was transferred to the BERGEN-SASSNITZ-PRORA area, while the unidentified artillery brigade of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps in the Nordlager, ALTENGRABOW, moved in part to the barracks installation on Memeler Strasse, ROSTOCK, and in part to the barracks installation on Ulmenstrasse. A return to JUETENBOG of the 4th AT Arty Brig appears improbable as the previous quarters were occupied by the Hq Third Gds Mecz Army at the end of May 1952. The corps artillery brigade was allegedly to remain in the ROSTOCK area until July 1952. As it is unusual to transfer an AT artillery brigade to an island where it is isolated, it is inferred that no tactical reasons are behind this operation. The same conclusion applies to the transfer of the corps artillery brigade which was transferred from the corps area. Rather, it is believed that these reshufflings were made for reasons of training, especially as the new area is suitable for firing practice at sea targets with live ammunition. Such firing practices had already been conducted in the area of PRORA and northeast of WARNEMUENDE in the years prior to 1949. Rumors among the population that tank units also arrived in the ROSTOCK-WARNEMUENDE area partly by sea, have not been confirmed to date. \*\*

#### Miscellaneous.

6. According to information received so far, new Soviet komendaturas have been established in SEFTENBERG, LUCKAU, MERSBURG and MALCHIN, Mecklenburg since about mid-May 1952. The reasons for this measure are not known. However, it is known that in 1950 several Soviet komendaturas were dissolved and their personnel sent back to the U.S.S.R.

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8. A total of more than 4,000 new motor vehicles has been shipped from the U.S.S.R. to the Soviet Zone of Germany since the spring of 1952. It appears that most of these vehicles replaced worn-out vehicles, as only one new block of 1,000 numbers has been observed to date. Numbers of this block were reported from all over the Soviet Zone. Available information indicates [redacted]

[redacted] were assigned mostly to the 2d Gds AAA Div or the IV Arty Corps. A smaller amount of the numbers were allotted to artillery units of the Fourth Gds Mecz Army.

9. It was determined that, in the course of the last six months, medium tank regiments received 8 to 12 heavy tanks and the heavy tank regiments 10 to 15 medium tanks.

10. After mid-April 1952, occupied AAA emplacements were observed at several airfields in the Soviet Zone of Germany. Vehicles of the 31st AAA Div were seen at DOEBERITZ airfield, vehicles of the 62d AAA Div (US) at JUTERBOG airfield, and vehicles of the 32d AAA Div (US) at COTTBUS airfield. The observation of vehicles of the 32d AAA Div (US) in STRAUSBERG indicates that the local air force depot there was also given AAA protection. [redacted]

[redacted] is assigned to the unidentified AAA unit in BRANDENBURG have been observed, since April 1952, at WERNEUCHEN airfield and, sporadically, also at FINSTERWALDE airfield. [redacted] sequence which is assigned to the unidentified AAA unit in PARCHIM have been observed at BRAND airfield.

11. All available information tends to indicate that Soviet AAA units are subordinate to the Soviet Army. Besides the AAA divisions, regiments and battalions of the various armies and the IV Arty Corps of the GOFU, three other AAA units have been observed for a long time in BRANDENBURG, PARCHIM and ZERBST. The assignment of these AAA units has not been determined. Motor vehicle traffic from the units mentioned to the headquarters of the fighter corps in WITTENBERG indicates the possibility that these units may be subordinate to the Soviet Air Force, at least in tactical matters. Similar observations were made in Austria, where also special AAA units were observed having vehicle numbers in the middle of number series assigned to air force units. Vehicles of these AAA units, partly occupied by personnel wearing air force insignia, were often seen at the Hq of the Fifty-Ninth Air Army.

#### Transportation.

12. Operational conditions on the Soviet Zone railroads continued to be satisfactory in May. The number of freight cars claimed by the Soviet occupation authority was normal. Coal stocks which amounted to 304,156 tons on 12 May 1952, had hardly changed as compared with total coal stocks available in April. The grain shuttle train and motor vehicle exchange programs as well as the shipment of uranium ore continued during May. Another special transportation program through Soviet Zone border crossing points was the shipment of about 700 artillery pieces with calibers of up to 76.2-mm from the U.S.S.R. to FUERSTENWALDE. This program was started in late April and early May. Part of this shipment was delivered to the Volkspolizei.

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13. The following railroad construction projects were under way during the reported period:
  - a. Reconstruction of the second track on the GUBEN-FALKENBERG railroad line;
  - b. Reconstruction of the second track on the GROSSBEEREN-SEDDIN railroad line, which continues the southern section of the BERLIN Outer Freight Ring to the west;
  - c. Improvement of the GUBEN railroad station in order to ease the traffic burden on the FRANKFURT/Oder border crossing point.
14. According to an official count of freight cars completed on 31 March 1952, a total of 112,027 freight cars including 2,613 heavy-duty flatcars and well wagons were available in the Soviet Zone of Germany.
15. In connection with the isolation of West BERLIN from the Soviet Zone of Germany, the employees of the Directorate General, Railroads, BERLIN, living in West BERLIN were reassigned to the BERLIN regional railroad headquarters. They were then sent on leave for an indefinite period.
16. As in the previous months, Soviet supply operations, in May 1952, centered on the vehicle exchange program. During the period from early February to 17 May, a total of 4,327 new vehicles, mostly 3-ton trucks, were shipped to the Soviet Zone of Germany. According to a rough estimate, about 2,000 motor vehicles, the bulk of them lend-lease equipment, were returned to the U.S.S.R. No tanks were observed arriving in Germany in April and May. After being temporarily interrupted in the second half of April, the shipment by rail of jet aircraft from the U.S.S.R. to Germany was resumed. During the period from the beginning of this year to 15 May, a total of 480 MIG-15s arrived. Due to the increased deliveries of heavy equipment such as motor vehicles, weapons and aircraft, the rate of supply shipments from the U.S.S.R. to Germany again increased considerably. In April 1952, a total of 2,201 boxcars entered the Soviet Zone via FRANKFURT/Oder as against 1,271 recorded in March. A total of 1,405 boxcars was loaded with heavy equipment. Otherwise Soviet supply traffic was normal. The increased rate of supply shipments involving heavy equipment was reflected in a marked increase of Soviet intra-zonal supply traffic during the month of April. In connection with summer training started in April, ammunition shipments exceeded the level observed during the first three months of the year. In April, 321 carloads of ammunition were recorded, and during the first half of May, this number rose to 375. A total of 361, 303 and 133 carloads of ammunition was observed in January, February and March respectively.

#### German Volkspolizei.

17. Operations to bring the cadre units and schools of the military Volkspolizei to full T/E strength were started in early May 1952. It has been determined to date that 26 trains loaded with military equipment were dispatched from Soviet supply installations to 17 cadre units and four schools. In several cases, it could definitely be established that the trains carried light artillery pieces, AA guns and mortars. One of the shipments was consigned to the school of the Grenzpolizei in SOUDERSHAUSEN.

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18. The delivery of military equipment to the Volkspolizei was paralleled by the recruiting of new personnel taken from the 1927 through 1934 classes. Although the recruiting campaign has been continuously intensified, it has not had the desired success to date. It is believed that the personnel strength of Volkspolizei cadre units will be raised by about 30 percent in the course of this summer. This process will probably be accelerated by a transfer of men from younger classes from non-military Volkspolizei detachments to military cadre units. However, it is impossible to bring these cadre units to their authorized T/O strength without passing a universal military service law.
19. Various observations indicate that security measures along the Soviet Zonal boundaries are being tightened by a reinforcement of border police units and other appropriate measures. The isolation of BERLIN is also being affected by similar measures.

AUSTRIA.General.

20. No new information on the disposition and status of training of the Soviet Army units stationed in Austria has been received.

Order of Battle.

21. Units confirmed by Soviet documents include: the 144th Gds Mecz Regt, [ ] in VIENNA until 9 March; and the 1336th AAA Regt, [ ] in KORNEUBURG until 8 February.

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Training.

22. It is believed that most of the training during the reported period was conducted in the vicinity of military posts. No troop movements to or from troop training grounds were reported.

- \* [ ] Comment. For further information, see paragraph 5d.  
 \*\* [ ] Comment. See [ ]  
 \*\*\* [ ] Comment. For present location of Soviet divisions in the Soviet Zone of Germany, see Annex.

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	Arty Brig of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	At Ohrdruf (9 May).
	316th RL Regt (US)	Probably at Ohrdruf.
	AAA Regt of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	At Wustrow (16 May).
	880th Engr Bn	Probably in the Crawinkel area.
	39th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	The majority at Ohrdruf (13 May); elements in the Plauen post (2 May); artillery detachment of the 120th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt in the Stendal area (16 May).
	20th Gds Mecz Div	The majority in the Ohrdruf- Crawinkel area (13 May).
	Arty Brig of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	At Kindel (15 May).
	AAA Regt of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	At Kindel (12 May).
	94th RL Regt (US)	Possibly at Kindel.
	Engr Bn of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps	In Bad Koesen (22 May).
	57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	Most elements at Kindel (15 May); artillery detachments of the 172d and 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regts in the Stendal area (16 May); AAA units in Wustrow (1 shipment, 26 May); other AAA units at Altengrabow (30 April, 1 shipment); engineer battalion in Bad Koesen (17 May).
	21st Gds Mecz Div	Two thirds of the division at the post (27 May); one third of the division moved to Lossa in 9 shipments between 5 and 10 May; components of the engineer battalion possibly moved to Bad Koesen in 1 shipment on 16 May; AAA units at Wustrow (1 shipment, 28 May).
Third Shock Army	3d Gds AAA Div	Elements entrained in Magdeburg (1 shipment, 27 May).

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	44th Army Arty Brig	Elements at Altengrabow (30 April).
	Unidentified Army AT Arty Brig from Brandenburg	Most elements at Altengrabow (20 May).
	15th Gds Engr Bn	At Bittkau (3 May).
	136th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt	At the Letzling Heath (6 May).
	Engr Bn of the IX Mtz Rifle Corps	At Bittkau (since 15 April).
	94th Gds Mtz Rifle Div	Most elements in the posts (18 May); elements of the engineer battalion in Bittkau (8 May).
	18th Mecz Div	Most elements at Wittstock (9 May); elements of the engineer battalion at Bittkau (8 May).
	Arty Brig of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps	Moved from Altengrabow to Rostock between 8 and 12 May.
	890th Engr Bn	At Bittkau (26 April).
	207th Mtz Rifle Div	Elements presumably at the Letzling Heath by process of rotation (mid-May); engineer battalion at Bittkau (3 May); individual vehicles at Altengrabow (20 May).
	19th Gds Mecz Div	Elements from Magdeburg at the Letzling Heath (23 May); engineer battalion at Bittkau (3 May); AAA units at Altengrabow (20 May).
First Gds Mecz Army	4th Gds AAA Div	Elements probably at Wustrow.
	Engr units	Presumably in the area south of Muehlberg on the Elbe River (mid-May); elements in Goerlitz since 26 May (until 14 May ?).
	8th Gds Mecz Div	Most elements at Koenigsbrueck (30 May).
	9th Tank Div	Elements in the Zeithain-Bad Liebenwerda area (14 May); elements in Koenigsbrueck (30 May); individual motor vehicles at Altengrabow (20 May).

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	11th Gds Tank Div	Most elements at Koenigsbrueck (30 May).
Second Gds Mecz Army	31st AAA Div	Elements presumably in the post; individual vehicles at the Letzling Heath (23 May); one battery each emplaced at Doeberitz airfield and north of Fuerstenberg.
	2d Light Arty Brig (US)	In the area northwest of Neustrelitz (21 May).
	Army Engr units	Moved to the Jerichow area on the Elbe River on 26 and 27 May.
	9th Gds Tank Div	Most elements in the post (until 23 May); elements in camps north and west of Neustrelitz (mid-May); AAA units returned from Altengrabow on 26 May.
	12th Gds Tank Div	In the posts (23 May).
	1st Mecz Div	Most elements presumably in the post (23 May); elements in the Neustrelitz area (since 18 May).
Third Gds Mecz Army	62d AAA Div (US)	Elements returned to Wuensdorf from Wustrow in two shipments on 3 June; battery emplaced at Jueterbog airfield (14 May).
	199th Light Arty Brig	Presumably still at the post (end of April).
	Army Engr units	Presumably still at the post.
	14th Gds Mecz Div	Most elements in the post (21 May); engineer battalion in the area of Wittenberg on the Elbe River (since 25 April).
	6th Gds Tank Div	Most elements in Werder-Markendorf (3 May); engineer battalion probably still in the Wittenberg area.
	7th Gds Tank Div	Most elements at Letzling Heath (23 May); engineer battalion probably moved to the area of Wittenberg on the Elbe River on 26 April (1 shipment).

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<u>Group or Army</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Location</u>
	9th Mecz Div	Most elements at Weisswasser (30 May); engineer battalion moved to Wittenberg on the Elbe River in 1 shipment on 25 April; individual vehicles of the division at the Letzling Heath (9 May); a detachment possibly at Altengrabow (since 23 April).
Fourth Gds Mecz Army	AAA Div	Elements at Wustrow (16 May); 1 shipment from Jueterbog back to Fuerstenwalde on 29 May.
	11th (?) Gds AT Arty Brig	At Templin (mid-May).
	Army Engr units	Probably in Templin.
	6th Gds Mecz Div	At Templin (26 May).
	7th Gds Mecz Div	At Lieberose (16 May); individual vehicles of the division at Altengrabow (20 May).
	10th Gds Tank Div	Probably at Letzling Heath.
	25th Tank Div	At Templin (26 May).

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